

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW *PSEUDOGERYGONE*
FROM SOUTH-EAST QUEENSLAND.

By *W. E. Weatherill*, of the Q'land Museum.

Pseudogerygone cantator, sp. nov.

Adult. General colour above, olive brown, tinged with fawn on the rump; lesser and median wing-coverts like the back, greater coverts dark brown, narrowly margined with olive brown. Primaries and secondaries edged with pale brown, which becomes indistinct towards the outermost feather. Tail crossed by a broad band of black, basal half brown, each feather, with the exception of the two central ones which are brown, has a large white spot near the extremity of the innerweb, the two outermost feathers have two white spots, which are separated by a strip of brown running along the edge of the quill. Eye-ring, feathers under the eye, lores, and a line above the eye, gray. In front of the eye is an indistinct blackish spot. Under surface ashy white, lighter on the throat and under tail coverts. Thighs gray, flanks ashy gray, underwing-coverts and auxillaries white, quills white below, becoming darker near the tips. Under surface of the primaries and secondaries whitish along the edge of the inner web. Bill and feet black, iris red.

Young have the eye-ring, a line above the eye, lores, feathers below the eye, and the edges of the primaries and secondaries sulphur yellow.

Measurements of an adult male in flesh.

Total length	..	..	..	..	114 millimeters
Culmen	..	..	..	..	10 "
Wing	..	..	..	..	56 "
Tail	..	..	..	..	45 "
Tarsus	..	..	..	..	20 "

Differs from *Pseudogerygone fusca*, with which it has been generally confounded, in the following characters:—

Flanks and under tail coverts washed with buff ; feet and legs weak ; size small, length (in millimeters) 96.5 ; culmen, 8.45 ; wing, 48.35 ; tail, 43.20 ; tarsus, 16.50	..	..	..	..	<i>fusca</i> .
Flanks ashy gray ; under tail coverts white ; feet and legs strong ; size large, length (in millimeters) 114 ; Culmen, 10 ; wing, 56 ; tail, 45 ; tarsus, 20	..	..	..	..	<i>cantator</i> .

The nest is a strongly built, compact structure, of oval shape and abruptly narrowing to a long slender appendage ; it is suspended from one or more slender twigs, round which the material forming the roof is neatly and strongly woven ; the entrance is protected from the weather by an overhanging flap, similar to the eaves of a house. It is composed externally of delicate fibrous bark, fine roots, and dry grasses, firmly bound together by spiders' webs, and almost invariably ornamented with the cocoons of those insects ; internally it is lined with feathers, thistle down, and other soft material. It is most frequently suspended from the end of a mangrove bough overhanging the water. Total length 11 inches, about 5 inches of which constitute the appendage ; diameter 3 inches at the widest part ; entrance circular, 1 inch in diameter.

Eggs : Clutch, three ; long-oval in shape ; texture of shell fine ; surface slightly glossy. Colour pale pink ; some speckled all over with reddish brown spots ; others with the spots forming a dark red zone at the larger end. Outside dimensions (in millimeters) 17.8 by 12.6 to 17 by 13.2.

Type in the Queensland Museum, collected and presented by Mr. W. E. Weatherill.

This bird is a denizen of the coast and lives among the mangrove bushes on the islands of Moreton Bay, and along the banks of the rivers and creeks in South-East Queensland. It may often be observed in the parks and gardens close to the coast, busily engaged in quest of insects. At intervals of every few minutes it bursts forth into song ; this is so sweet and well sustained, that the residents of the Brisbane District call it the " Queensland Canary." Its pre-eminence as a song bird above its congeners induces me to propose the above name for the species.
